

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yasuhiro INAGAKI, et al.

Application No.: 09/905,662

Filed: July 13, 2001

For: SUBSTRATE CLEANING METHOD AND
SUBSTRATE CLEANING APPARATUSMail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
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Group Art Unit: 1746

OCT 31 2005

Examiner: Michail Komakov

Confirmation No.: 5976

*Do not
enter**M.K.**11/07/05***RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated June 6, 2005, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 6, 8-16, and 18-22 remain pending in the above-identified Application.

Certified Translation of Priority Application

A certified translation of Applicants' Japanese Application No. P2000-240134 is enclosed with this Amendment. Because this priority application, dated August 8, 2000, predates the effective priority date of U.S. Patent No. 6,497,238 (Knotter), Knotter does not qualify as prior art against the present application. Accordingly, Applicants request the rejections relying on Knotter be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants thank the Examiner for the August 8, 2005, telephonic conversation during which it was agreed the rejections would be withdrawn if a translation of the